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VALLEY STAR

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LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

Cuts Hurt Disabled Students

BY SERENA DANIELS
STAFF WRITER



Proposed budget cuts may mean crowded classrooms and fewer courses, but for many students, these are the least of their worries.

"The Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) really helped me get started," Sam Kbushyan, Associated Student Union president said. "When I was in the program they helped me pay for books, which is something that many students count on to stay in school. These programs create another support system for students. It wouldn't be right to get rid of them."

For Students on the Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) or Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSPS), budget cuts put their ability to attend school at risk. Those programs could face as much as 46 percent cut backs, which jeopardizes their existence, according to program officials. Administration has asked both programs to cut their budgets 10 percent this semester.

"If the proposal is approved, it could cut salaries, our book services, tutoring and our outreach program," director of EOPS Doris Richardson said. "As it is, we've already had to cut the book service by half and we're limiting the amount of new students into the program."

The state funds EOPS to

help economically and educationally disadvantaged students reach their goals. The program came into effect in the late 1960s because of student activism, Richardson said. The program provides academic counseling, tutoring, transfer assistance, book vouchers, childcare and scholarship information.

"The state currently gives enough money to serve about 1,100 students, but Valley serves 1,800, meaning that more than 700 students aren't getting anything from the state," Richardson said. "The state is giving us about \$1 million, but in reality, we need about \$1.5 million, so we're already having to stretch out our budget."

The DSPS budget is also threatened, but legislators will have a more difficult time cutting its funds because the state requires it to exist.

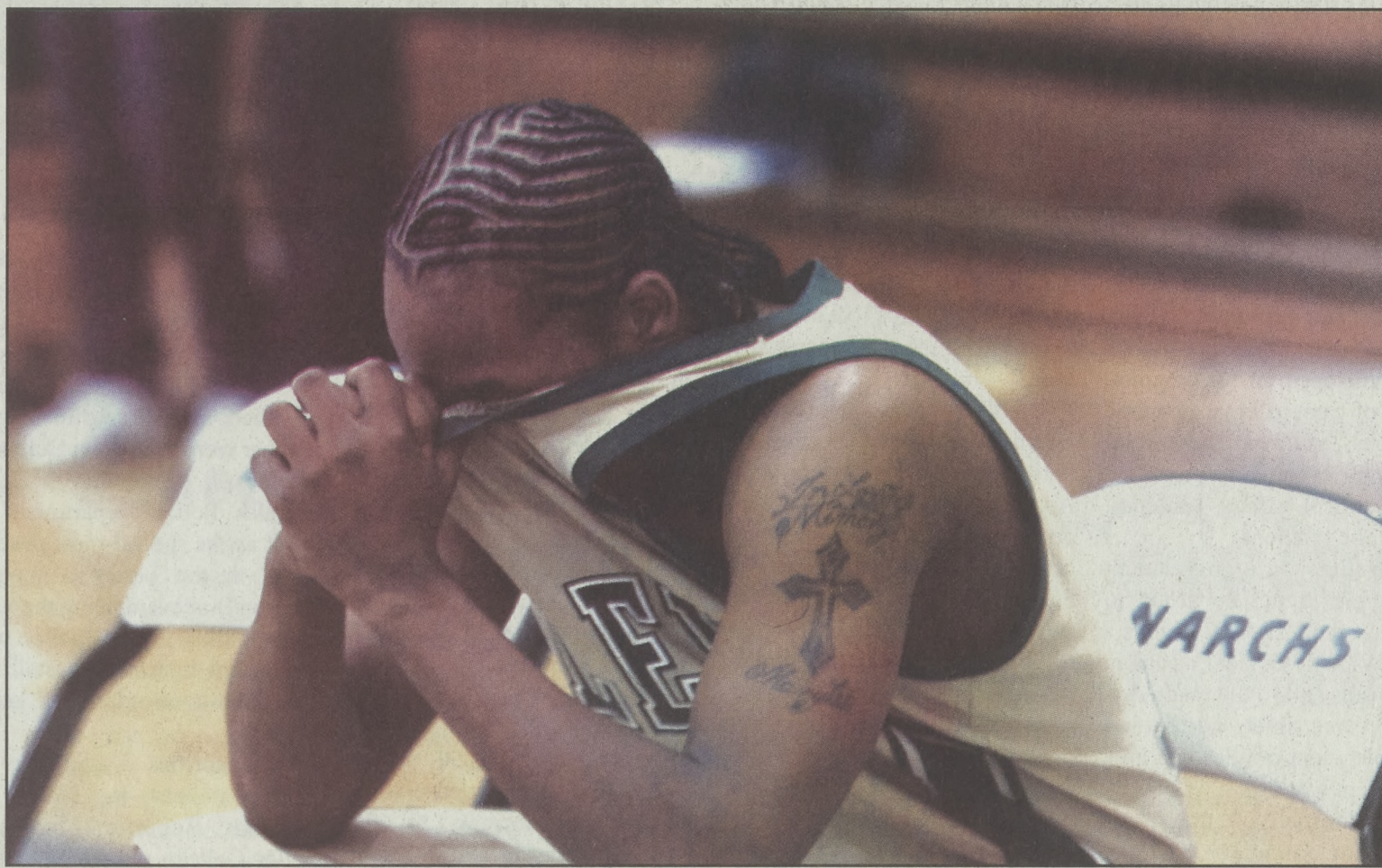
"Even if 46 percent is cut, the school still has to provide services," Kathleen Sullivan, director of the DSPS said. "This is not just a budget issue, it's a civil rights issue. It's our responsibility to provide equal access to all students. If the state cuts our budget, they're breaking the law."

DSPS serves students with disabilities of all kinds. Students with physical, learning, or psychological disabilities directly related to educational limitations are eligible for many services to assist them.

"Depending on a student's

See 'DSPS' on page 6

MONARCHS DETHRONED



JORGE GALLEGOS / VALLEY STAR

GAME OVER-Monarchs guard Carlos Rivers is devastated after losing a big playoff game against Southwest College 89-87 in overtime.

LACCD Runoff Puts Bond Measure on May 20 Ballot

BY JACQUI BROWN
STAFF WRITER

With incumbent Mona Field's failure to get a majority of the vote in the Los Angeles Community College District's office five race March 4, the district can put a \$980 million bond measure on the May 20 ballot along with her runoff with challenger Joyce Burrell Garcia. One item can't appear on the ballot by itself and the second issue was necessary to bring it to vote.

If passed, Valley College will be among the recipients of the bond, called Proposition AA along with eight other district campuses. The LACCD Board of Trustees will meet to discuss

the division of the money at a later date.

"The first bond, Proposition A, passed before the master plans were developed," said Lynn Winter Gross, director of public relations for the Los Angeles Community College District. "We realized once these plans were laid out, the money acquired through Prop A wouldn't be enough to complete the projects as planned."

"We know the projects we have to do," Valley President Tyree Wieder said. "We've

looked at several areas, including the age of the school, enrollment and several other issues. The money from Proposition A has been used to add a few small changes around campus and to hire engineers, design teams and environmental agencies." Wieder said construction would commence in 2004.

With only a 13 percent of voters showing last week, it's hard to imagine the two candidates will capture a larger audience in the runoff.

"I was neither surprised nor

disappointed in the voter turnout," challenger Joyce Burrell Garcia said. "There are always those who stay the course and those who forget to stay the course. The fact there's a runoff brings a heightened sense of social responsibility to the table. The bond proposition is being presented at as good a time as any."

Garcia said she would ease into the next phase of her campaign. "Right now is a time to catch my breath," she said.

Mona Field is not feeling as confident as she would like, even though she took 48 percent of the original vote. As far as the runoff goes she feels the state has been paralyzed over this war in Iraq

See 'RUNOFF' on page 6

Grant and Valley Walk Out

BY SERENA DANIELS AND
RYAN YUDELL
STAFF WRITERS

A joint effort protest with Valley College and Grant High School students had all the makings of a success recently, but came short due to lack of support.

While carrying signs reading "Impeach Bush," and "No War For Oil" and getting cheers from passing traffic, demonstrators' plans to walk from the corner of Ethel Street and Oxnard Boulevard to Valley's free speech area came to an abrupt end when students began throwing pinecones and a trashcan at

police officers.

"They stole those signs from our generation," police investigator John Clark said. "Part of the reason that students don't organize is that today's society is so competitive. They don't have time to become politically active."

High school students throughout Los Angeles protested against a possible war on Iraq. Valley and Grant students received little support from students and school administrators.

"It could be really tremendous," Tanya Selig, a Valley student/organizer said before the protest. "I'm hoping this could be the largest organized protest in U.S. history." The protest, however, was little more than a spectacle that enraged Grant faculty, put high school students in a frenzy and kept Los Angeles

See 'WALK OUT' on page 6



TAMMY ABBOTT / VALLEY STAR

PROTEST WITH A SMILE - A few protesters caused a stir on Oxnard Boulevard on the student Walkout March 5.

Three Car Pileup on Burbank

BY BEN JAURON
EDITOR IN CHIEF

A Toyota Previa minivan smacked a parked car on Burbank Boulevard Friday and the driver was rushed to a hospital complaining of chest pains. Begnina Aracely Avalos of North Hollywood was driving west at roughly 40 m.p.h. when she struck the back of a Saturn SC, which struck the back of a Honda Civic, and both cars careened forward 20-25 feet, according to officer Danny Martinez of the Los Angeles Police Department.

Since there were no skid marks, police knew Avalos didn't engage her brakes. No one saw the wreck, but some heard the crashing sound and confirmed there was no squealing, only a loud boom when the Toyota struck the Saturn.

"I think she just probably lost it," campus security officer Erik Franklin said. Authorities suspect Avalos either fell asleep or wasn't paying attention while she drove. She was driving alone

and police couldn't determine her insurance status because she was too badly injured for police to ask.

Valley College theatre major Andre Holzendorf was in the Math lab doing homework when Avalos rear-ended his parked Saturn. The back window of the Saturn, the most badly

damaged car, shattered and blanketed the sidewalk south of lot H with glass shards, sending some 15 feet into the lot itself.

Holzendorf was calm because he has full insurance and was more concerned with the other's well being. "I hope (Avalos) has insurance,"

See 'CRASH' on page 2



BEN JAURON / VALLEY STAR

COLLISION - Police officer Danny Martinez examines a three-car wreck on Burbank Boulevard south of Parking Lot H Friday. The driver was rushed to the hospital.

NEWS

Race for Open Student Govt. Positions Begins

BY BILLIE JORDAN
STAFF WRITER

Valley College student government elections will take place April 29 and 30 in Monarch Square. The current members are finishing their terms and will leave 10 executive council positions open.

"We really need some people to step up and take the leadership positions," Associated Student union President Samvel Kbushtyan said. "I really had fun working here. I love Valley."

The Executive Council offices of ASU President, Vice President and Treasurer are open for candidacy. Commissioner's seats will open up for commissioner of campus environmental concerns, student and social affairs, the evening division, fine arts, political affairs, athletics, and public relations.

"Being in government helped me to not be afraid to open up and discuss things," ASU Vice President, Manya Avetisyan said. "It made me more responsible and knowledgeable about politics and how the system works."

Additionally, the Los Angeles Community College District student trustee position is open. The LACCD student trustee represents all nine district community colleges. The student trustee is responsible for

two meetings a month and is paid \$500 per month during his or her tenure.

"I get to see my ideals come to life," Commissioner of Cultural affairs James Brevard said. Student government responsibilities include deciding how money is spent, improving campus life and helping other students. "When I first came in it was all about me getting my grades and getting out. Now I realize it's bigger than that," Brevard said. "Being a part of student government makes you feel like you're contributing to the growth of the campus. A lot of the relationships I've acquired will be with me years down the road."

The process has begun. Board members plan to schedule debates for the candidates. Applications for interested students are available in campus center room 102 and due by 4 p.m. April 11. Applications for student trustee are available in campus center room 102 and due by 4 p.m. March 17.

Applicants for Valley student government positions are required to have and maintain a minimum 2.0 grade point average, have completed at least one semester at Valley and be taking nine or more units.

See 'RACE' on page 6.

'Crash'

continued from page 1

Holzendorf said. "My wife's not going to be happy, she's not going to be happy at all. What a day."

Psychology major Farrah Esmail was in her Human Sexuality class when Holzendorf's Saturn ricocheted into her rear bumper. Her car was the only one not totaled, but it was towed with the others. She was more upset by the parking ticket on her windshield, because of the Friday morning street sweeping on the north side of Burbank Boulevard.

"I'm clueless about what I'm going to do," Esmail said. "I think I have full coverage, I don't even know."

Safe Driving Tips

- Allow plenty of time to get to school/work
- Focus on arriving safely instead of quickly
- Be alert to road conditions/other vehicles
- Avoid distracting activities while driving
- Approach intersections with caution
- Relax, be polite, and yield right of way
- Allow ample room between vehicles
- Do not drive 'under the influence'
- Become a defensive driver

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY STERLING ANDREWS

Valley Streets Tempt Speeders

BY KATHY ARELLANO
COPY EDITOR

There's a significant impact on the nation's economy when people are injured or killed in auto accidents. It comes in the form of wage and productivity losses, medical and administrative expenses, motor vehicle damage and employer costs. The financial impact to the community is even greater if uninsured motorists are involved.

Speeding was a factor in 30 percent of all fatal crashes nationally, and 12,850 people died in speeding-related crashes in 2001, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Speeding is one of several aggressive behaviors known as road rage. Dangerous actions,

such as tailgating, cutting off, changing lanes without signaling and intimidating other drivers has caused countless accidents.

During 2000-2002, 10 people died and three times that number were injured on Burbank Boulevard, prompting the Los Angeles Police Department to list it as the second most deadly street in the Valley - Laurel Canyon Boulevard being the first - according to local police statistics. The injuries and fatalities were due to speed-caused accidents.

Authorities issued 28,981 traffic tickets in 2001 on Burbank Boulevard between Valley College and the 170 freeway, according to the most recent Dept. of Transportation statistics. An LAPD spokesperson said speed-related violations

comprised a large portion of the citations.

Young men between the ages of 15 and 20 are the most likely speeders. Thirty-six percent were involved in fatal crashes in 2001-2002, according to the National Center for Statistics & Analysis, and alcohol intoxication was a factor in 29 percent of those crashes. There was a 23 percent increase in the number of intoxicated 21- to 24-year-old drivers who were involved in fatal crashes.

The streets surrounding Valley are under LAPD jurisdiction but, "If they are cruising around on Ethel or Hatteras, I'll stop them," said Sheriff's Deputy Randy Tuinstra, the head of campus security. "They're on city streets but I can cite them. It's dangerous because they're in

school zones." "We don't have much of a speeding problem on the campus," Tuinstra added. "If somebody is doing something dangerous, we won't hesitate to stop them and advise them of their driving habits."

LAPD Valley Traffic Division has equipped many of its 71 motor officers with the newest hand-held laser-sensor devices, they said, in an expanded effort to crack down on speeders. Local agencies, such as the California Office of Traffic Safety, are developing educational programs to raise awareness and offer alternatives to aggressive driving, according to California Office of Traffic Safety online.

Valley's New Appointees

BY JAMES DABBAGIAN
STAFF WRITER

New URS director named

Alix O'Brien has been named project director of the Valley College Proposition A construction projects.

O'Brien has served as interim project director for URS, the agency manning the construction of Valley's new building construction, for the past three months. She is permanently replacing Fred Parker, who resigned November 2002.

URS will hold a Town Hall meeting in the Cafeteria Conference Room on Mar. 27 at 2 p.m.

Sylvia Rodriguez Named Director of New Grant Program

Valley College Dean of Student Services Sylvia Rodriguez has been named Director of the Title V grant program at Woodbury University and Valley.

The U.S. Department of Education will give \$3 million to help underrepresented students transfer to four-year universities. Under this program Rodriguez will be responsible for working with Woodbury in improving student success in the retention, transferring and graduation.

"I'm pleased that Ms. Rodriguez has been selected because she's very committed to increase the transfer rates to Woodbury University," Valley President Tyree Wieder said. "Ms. Rodriguez' background is well suited for the new position, having extensive experience working with federal grants."

Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism (USA PATRIOT) Act of 2001.

Many students at Valley College have no idea what the Patriot Act is and have no feelings either for or against it. "I know nothing about the Patriot Act," student Julio Orellana said.

"I guess it works, I don't see what's wrong with it other than invading people's privacy," student Anthony Bello said. "I'm not doing anything wrong, so I don't mind."

Others aren't as supportive. "I feel like they shouldn't be able to do that, because they're invading a person's privacy, and that's not fair," student Crystal Williams said.

The act, enacted after Sept. 11, enhances the powers of government and law enforcement in surveillance and acquiring intelligence relating to terrorism.

The placement of these stickers qualifies as petty vandalism, a rare crime on campus with the exception of graffiti.

"It's a form of vandalism a person could face prosecution for," head of campus security Deputy Randy Tuinstra said. "If I caught somebody doing it, I would find out why they're doing it, and explain that it's a crime."

CrimethInc. sells the stickers in an "Agent Subversion Kit," which includes one hundred stickers for five dollars. They also sell a kit containing a sticker reading "Fortified with 100 percent Iraqi blood," made to go on gas pumps; and have anti-war posters available for downloading.

"Each card is a little thought-bomb waiting to be set off by whoever holds it in their hands," according to the CrimethInc. website.



SAMANTHA KUPPIG / VALLEY STAR

STICKERS - Vandals have placed anti-patriot act stickers on pay phones throughout campus.

Message Left on Valley Payphones

BY KRISTA CARLSON
NEWS EDITOR

Several phones on campus are marked "This Phone is Tapped," including three next to the learning center and one across from the Behavioral Sciences building.

Student Linda Bui said her concern over using one of these marked phones would depend on what calls she was making. "There's really no point listening to personal calls," Bui said. "That's weird though, I never

knew you were allowed to tap into payphones."

Neither campus security nor any government organization placed these notices - the informer was an anonymous party. The online anarchist organization CrimethInc.com supplied them.

The sticker claims government and law enforcement agencies may record phone calls without a warrant or notification, according to section 216 of the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing

ARE YOU AN AGGRESSIVE DRIVER?

anger

- *No patience for fast or slow drivers, or all drivers
- *Angry in traffic jams, with malfunctioning signals
- *Hate being cut off or having to yield
- *Friends tell you to calm down
- *Angry for hours after driving

impatience

- *Hate waiting in lines, at lights, for parking spaces
- *Hurry passengers into or out of your car
- *Won't let car warm up, angry if behind schedule on a trip
- *Dislike driving in right lane
- *Impatient with pedestrians

competition

- *Challenge other drivers
- *Compete with other drivers who challenge you
- *Drag race adjacent car at stop lights
- *Challenge cars while in traffic
- *Feel superior to other drivers

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY STERLING ANDREWS

Correction

Due to an editorial error in last week's issue, the Valley Star would like to make a correction. Staff writers Billie Jordan and Kathy Arellano contributed to 'Monarchs Pack Hall for Meeting.'

OPINION

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STAFF EDITORIAL

Hey L.A., Are You Ready to Rumble?

This is priceless. Don King couldn't have promoted a better match-up. Move over, Liston vs. Clay, here comes Zine vs. Parks.

Here's the tale of the tape: Bernard "the South Central Slugger" Parks: Former chief of the Los Angeles Police Department, a 38-year veteran of the force. Under his watch, the city saw homicides drop 45 percent, rapes drop 20 percent and robbery drop more than 45 percent. Ousted by Mayor James Hahn and the City Council in 2002, he immediately expressed interest in running for City Council. The Eighth City Council district representing South Central Los Angeles — where he was born and bred — elected him last week.

Dennis "the Woodland Hills Whaler" Zine: former LAPD

Sergeant with 33 years on the force, mainly in valley traffic. He's been elected three times to the Police Union's Board of Supervisors. Elected to the City Council in 1997, he was always a harsh critic of Parks' leadership. He represents the Third District, the affluent southwest San Fernando Valley, where he owns a home in Hidden Hills.

There's no love lost between these two combatants. When their feud began is a mystery but one thing's certain: you won't find them taking midnight strolls hand in hand through MacArthur Park.

At an October 2001 Los Angeles Police Academy gathering, Zine referred to his nemesis as "Osama bin Parks." In the aftermath of 9-11, this was poor judgment at best. Zine sent a let-

"There's no love lost between these two combatants."

ter of apology to Parks' office, but Parks didn't absolve the councilman's words. "I won't accept his apology because I think it wasn't inadvertent," Parks said. "I think it was intentional."

When the Police Commission voted 4-1 against a second term as police chief for Parks, he took it to the City Council where he was again defeated 11-3. Zine was a major opponent of Parks and attacked what he called Parks' lack of "accountability and responsibility."

Now these two public servants are preparing to go 12 rounds again. No, they're not

fighting over public policy, police reform or even the budget crisis. This time it's for the championship belt of City Hall — office space.

When Parks tried to move into his new office a week ago he was turned away because Zine claimed them instead. Zine said it was because his staff needed more space, although these offices are smaller than his previous ones. Most feel this is just another display of the long-standing animosity between the two — Zine's way of "getting back" at his former boss.

Seniority determines council member's office space in City Hall. The council member with

the most time gets his pick. Although Parks is a former police chief and has been in public service longer than Zine, Zine has been on the council for six years to Parks' week. Therefore, the champ squats where he damn well pleases and the chump better learn to like it.

Parks attempted to move in to his new office March 5 but was met by redecorating crews and boxes. His response? "It's costing the city money at a time when the city doesn't seem to have any money," Parks said. "We just want an office."

Zine's response was an amateurish attempt to take the moral high road. "To bring this up is rather childish at best," he said.

Though Zine represents a wealthy constituency who's

ridiculously out of touch with the state of the city and the world, he must be commended because he does represent that constituency well. You can't fault a politician for that. But he only risks his integrity and hopes for keeping his job with resurrecting an old hatred.

The Greek prognosticates that we haven't heard the last of Zine's petty vendettas. As lovable as Parks' fresh face filled with the with the eye of the tiger and the thrill of the fight may be, it's doubtful he'll be able to best Zine's big money backers on Ventura Boulevard. Add James Hahn's old foe, new council member Antonio Villarigosa, into the ring and we're bound for mayhem, mayhem, mayhem in City Hall.

AN OPINION

Freedom Vandalized by Canoga Park High

By RYAN YUDELL
STAFF WRITER

It's easy to say no. It's simple for us to rise and tell a friend, neighbor or whomever that you object. The concept is as old as mankind and the First Amendment affirms our right to do so.

On March 5, thousands of students from colleges and high schools in Los Angeles and across the country took to the streets as part of a worldwide protest against U.S. policy.

Unfortunately, the good intentions of many are oftentimes grossly overshadowed by the ill deeds of few.

The nation and the world was listening on this day of protest in Los Angeles when people took time from their busy schedules to speak their dissent. Then about 15 students from Canoga Park High School decided to break ranks with their fellow protesters and loot a gas station convenience store.

But the undeniable story is not about what we protest so much as what we should protest. It seems clear that if you want

something to protest it should be stupidity.

When the Canoga High brain trust decided to rob a convenience store during the protest they not only stole from that establishment, they stole from everyone who likes to speak freely. In one fell swoop they effectively trashed our voice.

Every time the world opens a newspaper or turns on a TV or radio and hears a protest turned violent or demonstrators were looting, it says something. It says we as Americans are given every opportunity to do it right and yet we've done it wrong — again.

These criminals in Canoga Park spoke loud and clear on behalf of their fellow Americans. They told the world that Americans are stupid and self-indulgent. That our so-envied "American" way of life is nothing more than a case of so-called liberty run amuck.

These are the things Osama bin Laden, Saddam Hussein and other America-hating loons take pleasure watching. Right now

they're rubbing their hands together in excitement thinking we might just destroy ourselves.

Citizens should protest war and the people's voice needs to keep the government in check. It's our right and responsibility to do so.

Sometimes we forget every now and again the questions we need to ask, the protests and demands we need to make should be amongst ourselves. We should start questioning the dumb things in our more immediate reach first.

If it's easy to say no, if it's so simple for us to rise up and tell a friend, neighbor or stranger that we object, we should start by objecting to the stupidity played out in Canoga Park the other day.

Go to the streets. Protest. Tell these hoodlums, their parents and the world you are proud to be American, thankful for our rights and mad as hell that the ignorance of a few has yet again overshadowed the good intentions of the many.

PRESIDENTIAL GEOGRAPHY 101



ILLUSTRATION BY TIFFANY FARMAKIS / VALLEY STAR

Letter To The Editor

Regarding student Andree Mansoura's statement, "That's horrible! I'm outside!" in the article by Jackie Conley "Smokers' Rights Snubbed Out" last week's Star:

Various laws, not just Valley College requirements, require a buffer zone around buildings to allow cigarette smoke room to dissipate so it's not drawn through windows or doorways and into buildings.

The law requires some buildings to have exhaust fume hoods, and thus are drawing air in from the surroundings more than one would expect. Such buildings need a larger buffer zone to ensure proper air quality for anyone, such as asthmatics, using those buildings.

Therefore, "I'm outside!" is an ignorant response. The campus is a site for learning, and I hope everyone will increase their knowledge by being aware of regulations and act with responsibly and consideration of others. It's the irresponsible, inconsiderate smokers who ignore "No Smoking" signs and don't extinguish their smokes when informed that they're in no smoking areas who are creating a push for a completely non-smoking campus.

E.S. Friedman, Ph.D.
Chemistry and Physics Department Chairperson

CampusView

What should be done with the Canoga Park High students who looted the convenience store?

PHOTOS BY BENJAMIN FAVELA



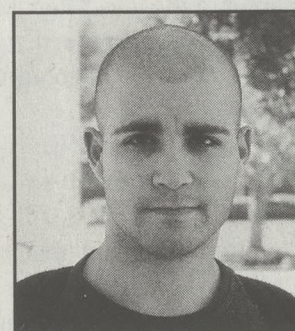
"When people get together they get carried away. It's everybody's fault."

Andrea Mosdale



"They should make the students rebuild the stores they vandalized."

Angela Earhart



"It's up to the cops, the students didn't break school laws, they broke city laws."

Ben Bocian



"They were protesting and I understand that. The owners might have been against the war too, you never know."

Jennifer Ivy

JACQUI BROWN



Coming Undone

Time and again we've seen ultimatums result in lose-lose situations. By alienating the other members of the U.N. Security Council we're ripping ourselves a new one. All our allies are backing down so President George W. Bush will be the only one present for the showdown.

When the Security Council can't come to an agreement, when the United Nations can't sanction what lurks around the corner, the world must conclude there's no solution. No country seems willing to burn its bridges except the United States. Vice President Dick Cheney and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld seem to think working with the United Nations will only prolong the inevitable, so why put off till tomorrow what we can bomb today? Are they afraid waiting will allow Saddam Hussein to claim a victory for his people in overthrowing the international system that's always been intact?

For the United States to insinuate that we ultimately don't need the international community's cooperation to complete this deadline, this threat, is insane. This global unrest as it stands now upsets the balance. Right now we have neither peace nor war.

It seems Iraq is complying with U.N. resolution 1441 that calls for its complete disarmament. The inspectors report that disarmament in Iraq is taking place and long-range missiles and warheads are being dismantled but more time is needed. This is what we set out to do, but now we demand they move much quicker or face oblivion from fleets of B-52s to satisfy an administration set on battle.

Those demanding war have given little consideration to the men, women and children in Iraq who seek only the simplest life under the political climate they've tolerated their entire life. Not every Iraqi soul is bearing arms, despite what our government would have us believe. There are too many "what ifs" to jump into the fire too quickly.

We've filled our Veteran Memorial Cemeteries to capacity. The last war in Iraq sent back many maimed, ill or dead casualties of war. We didn't accomplish what we set out to do even then with "Daddy Bush" at the helm. Why is it so important that America needs a body count to be right? Landfills are supposed to be for garbage, not young men and women's bodies fighting a battle that might not needed to have taken place at all.

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Campus Scene

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES
California State University
 Northridge-10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 March 17

Other
California Lutheran University- 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 March 18
University of Judaism- 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 19
Woodbury University- 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 19,
 Monarch Square

THEATRE
The Stanway Case 8 p.m.
 14-16, Horseshoe Theatre.

EVENTS
24th Annual Job Fair, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 19,
 Monarch Square
Sacramento Lobby Day-
 March 16 and 17. Go to
 CC102 for more information.

Sorochkina Romances the Piano at Valley

By TAMMY ABBOTT
 PHOTO EDITOR

Pianist Liuba Sorochkina is known for her heartfelt romantic interpretations. She delighted the audience in the Music Recital Hall Thursday. The Valley College Music Department and the Associated Student Union hosted this concert, which featured pieces that Franz Schubert, Robert Schumann and Frederic Chopin composed.

Sorochkina graduated from the Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow and has continued her life-long musical education throughout Europe and the United States and has played with various orchestras. She's recently been a member of the UCLA faculty, teaching piano.

The next concert in the recital hall will be Thursday, at 11:30 a.m. Be sure to arrive early for a good seat



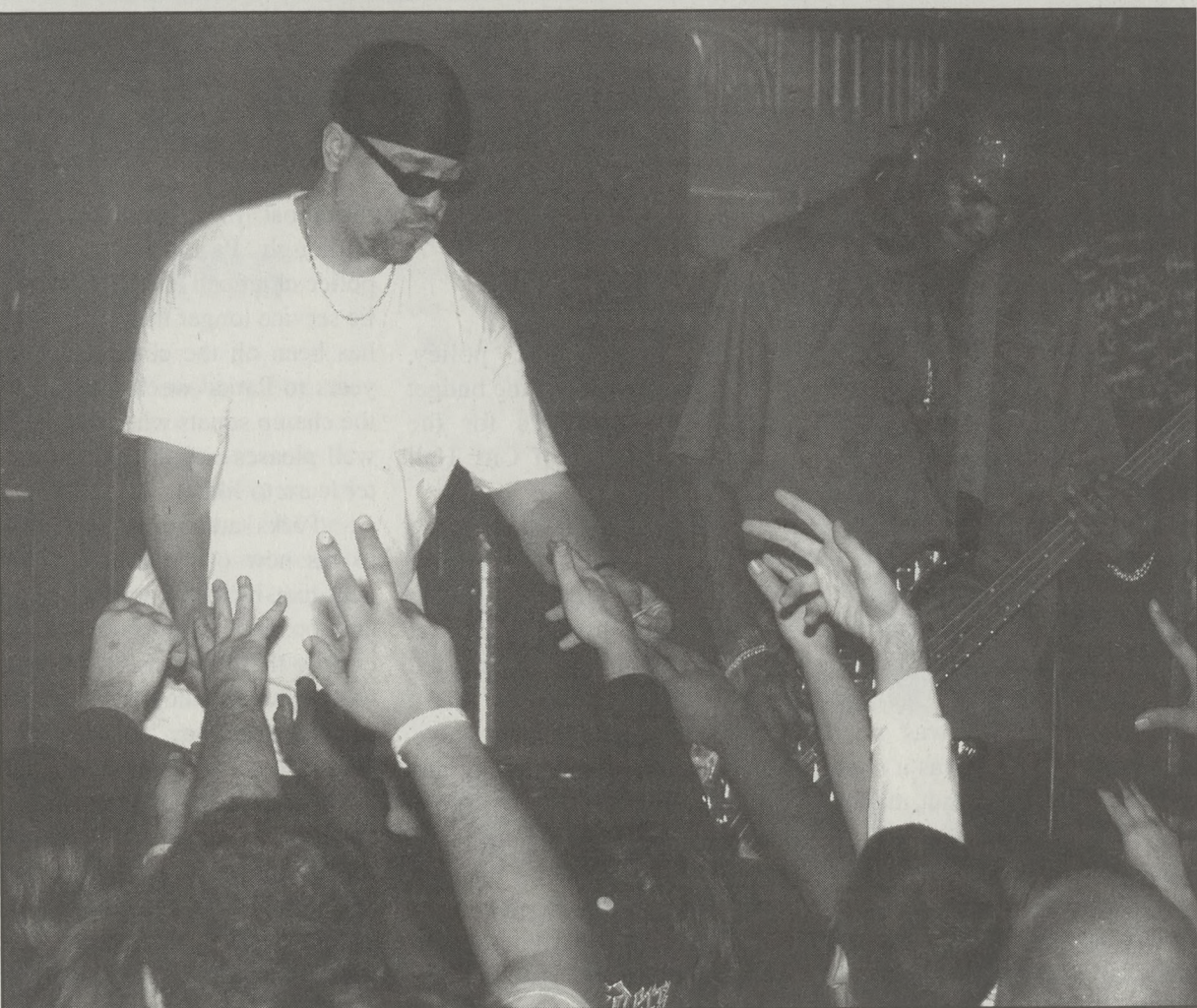
TAMMY ABBOTT/VALLEY STAR

PASSIONATE PIANO- Pianist Liuba Sorochkina, March 6

Here we go again. A group of lawyers claim it'll be possible for an man to sue his parents because they failed to act in his best interest by having him circumcised as a baby. Good Lord! What's next?

Will my daughter sue me for mental anguish because I made her wear clothes that were contradictory to the image she wanted to project? Will my son sue me for the bowl cut I gave him at three? Will my husband charge me with attempted murder because I bought bad meat and he got food poisoning?

A couple in Fargo, N.D., is suing the doctor and hospital where their son was circumcised



ALEX DASH/VALLEY STAR

BODY COUNT- Ice-T (left) and guitarist Ernie C (right) greet their raucous fans at the Key Club in West Hollywood Saturday night. It was Body Count's first Los Angeles show in five years.

Body Count Rises in West Hollywood

By BEN JAURON
 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Anyone who wasn't at the Key Club in West Hollywood Saturday night missed the greatest band ever to rock the face of the earth. Hey Kid Rock, hey Limp Bizkit, hide in your room and lock the door. Daddy just got home and he's pissed.

Ice T and his high school friend Ernie-C created Body Count in 1989. The band faded after they released the song "Cop Killer" in 1992 and a firestorm of controversy ensued. But for the first time in five years, the group rose like Los Angeles' murder rate on the Sunset Strip to put glam-drenched teeny-boppers in their place.

On with the Body Count! "I've been listening to rock and roll for the past five years, and truthfully, it's gotten real pussy to Ice T," Ice T said. "Did it all for the nookie. What the hell is nookie anyway? It's pussy, dammit!"

Ice T was also displeased with the entertainment media and politics.

"I turn on the TV, I see stuff like the 'Real World' and 'Joe Millionaire,' then I turn the channel and I see a crazy son-of-a-Bush trying to get us all killed," he said. "I wish we could all live peacefully and die in our homes of old age, but unfortunately..."

It was a perfect updated version for the preamble to the song "Sh— Ain't Like That."

The 400-strong capacity audience's styles ranged from heavy metal T-shirts to Oakland Raiders beanies and from stereotypical pimp hats and overcoats to Hollywood trendoid-threads, and even a couple suits and ties in the mix. Infamous songs like "Evil Dick," "KKK Bitch," "Mamma's Gonna Die Tonight" and of course "Cop Killer" kept the predominantly young male audience ferociously entertained.

**"Don't be afraid
(of the police). I play
'em on TV and they
can kiss my ass."**
Ice T

It seems that the mosh pit was invented with Body Count in mind, just as Abner Doubleday must have considered Babe Ruth when he invented baseball in 1839. The evening's real action was here, and it hit a crescendo with "Cop Killer," where punk, head-banger and hip-hopper alike beat the crap out of each other in the name of togetherness.

"Don't be afraid (of the police)," Ice T said in a spoken interlude during the song. "I play 'em on TV and they can kiss my ass."

In the interim since their last performances, Body Count lost two band members, drummer Beat Master V to leukemia and bass player Mooseman to a hail of bullets in South Central

Los Angeles, Ice T said. The show was dedicated to the fallen, but two new members replaced them.

The climax of the show came with the song Ice T called "The national anthem of Los Angeles... Cop Killer!"

"Cops have been harassing people for a long time using the job for personal insecurities. The message is very positive, stand for yourself or they'll keep pushing you down," Valley student Gary Zuniga said.

The twisted, punk-rock-esque song "Mamma's Gonna Die Tonight" provided the evening's perfect dénouement. "Mamma" is a delightful medley about how Ice T resents his mother for being racist and trying to teach him to be as well. So he incinerates her, brains her with a baseball bat, chops off her limbs with a ginsu carving knife and separates her pelvis with an ax.

"Hate my mother!/Burn, Mamma!/Burn, Mamma!/Burn, burn you racist bitch!"

Despite the violent themes, blatant misogyny and harsh criticisms of the American way, Body Count's primary message is creating racial harmony.

"Just because you're black don't mean you're my brother," Ice T said. "You're my brother if you treat me with respect, no matter what color you are."

Valley Star photographer Alex Dash contributed to this report.

Ani DiFranco's Evolution

By NICOLE SUNKES
 VALLEY LIFE EDITOR

It's the kind of music that makes you want to pour yourself a long drink, sit out on the balcony and smoke all night. Ani DiFranco, the super-fem who's built her own cult empire, is back. Her new album "Evolve," her second in six months, hit stores March 11.

She started playing gigs in small bars around Buffalo, N.Y., in the early 1980s. After several years of "earning her musical chops," her albums began to spread through word-of-mouth and rave reviews. Now, she sells out huge concert halls and stadiums wherever she goes, and she did it all herself.

Released on her "Righteous Babe" label, the new album has 12 tracks of spoken word and song. The mellow jazz and funky feel deals with love and politics, all thanks to DiFranco's songwriting and guitar skills.

"O My, My" featuring DiFranco on the piano, touches on love, restrained and yearned for. "If we let our love/Off its leash/Do you fear, like I fear/How fierce it would be?" With DiFranco playing the piano, an instrument she doesn't know how to play, it's an experiment in sound.

DiFranco also expresses her political opinions in the title track "Evolve." "Now let's get talking reefer madness, like/Some arrogant government can't/By any stretch of

the imagination/Outlaw a plant!" and "They are taking by thousands/Our lives from under us/It's a crash course in religious fundamentals/Now let's go to war/Get some bang for our buck."

"Here For Now," a Latin-themed guitar and horn number, is smooth and exciting. Its dancy beat and funky guitar are fast and light.

In the spoken word "Serpentine," DiFranco and her guitar speak out against the government and pop culture. "And the music industry mafia is pimpin' girl power/Snipping off the sharpshooter singles from their Styrofoam towers." She said it was very hard for her to record the 10-minute piece. "At the end of the performance that appeared on the record, I cried and cried," she said. "So I figured, 'fine, I guess that's it.'"

Unlike the Brittannies and Christinas of today, DiFranco built her fame and cult following without having to go on MTV, showing belly-button.

"Evolve," and album recorded in part at her home in Buffalo, features mostly live in-studio sounds from her five-piece touring band. Although she does play with her band on this album, she plans to tour solo. "I feel, in a way, that I have myself back, and my work has become much more gratifying to me as a result," Di Franco said.

DiFranco chose "Evolve" because she felt the title epitomized many of the album's central themes.

'Stanway Case' Knocks 'em Dead at Valley

By KATHY ARRELLANO
 COPY EDITOR

The intimate setting of Valley College's Horseshoe Theatre proved a wonderful venue for "The Stanway Case," an intriguing, four-act murder mystery with a twist.

The wonderfully crafted story centers on Tom and Maura, who meet as jurors on a murder trial and enter into a romantic relationship. The scene is the living room of Maura's "carefully proper" apartment. The fact emerges that they're at opposite sides of the verdict, which causes many problems between them and leads to a frightening climax.

Another man and woman occasionally appear in the apartment but on a different time line. They play out a bizarre relationship

with an interesting connection to the Stanway case. Effective lighting and script create a surreal atmosphere for their scenes.

Lori Murphy (Maura), Keith Patterson (Tom), Shannan Leigh (Jan) and Tripp Pickell (Scott) are all professional actors who've performed with the Tree Trunk Theatre Company and many other productions.

Sam Bobrick wrote the play, Valley alumnus Aaron J. Bronsal directed and Debbie Bronsal produced. The Bronsals founded the Tree Trunk Theatrical Company. The Stanway Case is presented in association with Valley.

This delectable play will run March 14, 15, 16. Tickets are \$12 for general admission, \$8 for students and seniors and are available at the box office. Call (818) 947-2791 for reservations.



SAMANTHA KUPPIG/VALLEY STAR

STANWAY CASE- This provocative play is showing at the Horseshoe Theatre 8 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights.

SNIP THE TIP, SUE THE FOLKS

SLICE OF LIFE

By JACQUI BROWN

prevent a man from sexual satisfaction. I can tell you that first hand.

These are completely separate issues, and the audacity of these parents and lawyers — who apparently have far too much time on their hands — to try and compare the two in court, goes above and beyond the frivolous lawsuit syndrome we see so often these days.

These parents made a conscious

decision, in writing, to allow the hospital to do the procedure.

Is this just another case of misguided money acquisition or is there something to it? Different advocates argue that men should be allowed this decision once they reach legal age. Hello! Now we're talking memorable pain. Picture a world of grown men walking around with tears in their eyes wearing baggy pants.

This could open many new doors to frivolous lawsuits. Maybe we shouldn't vaccinate our kids either. We could just cross our fingers until they reach adulthood and let them decide whether or not to be injected. We're the parents, which gives us the right to make informed decisions and live with the consequences. What example are we setting when we allow law suits like this to continue?

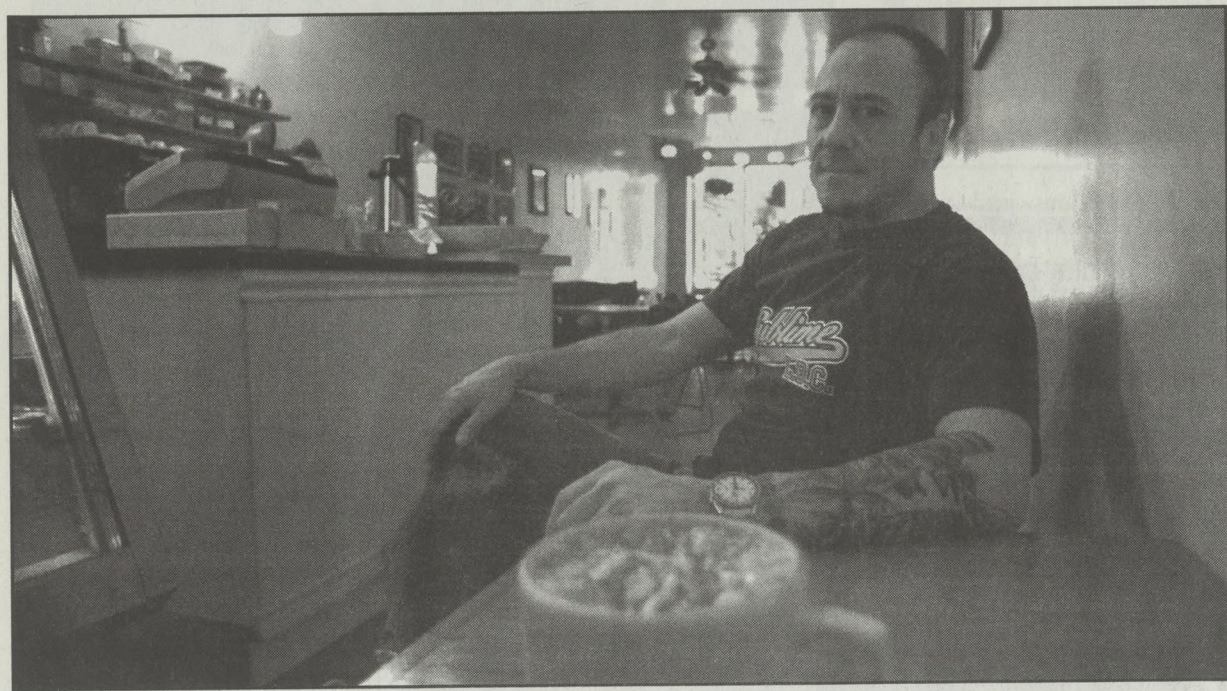
We have so many more important issues to contemplate in this day and age. Imagine what could happen if all the energy being put forth in this case as well as others like it were put to the bigger causes, like cancer

cures or world peace.

The lawyers who present these cases as well as the judges that allow them should be held in contempt of the law. They jam up the already-overburdened system and put money in the greed-monsters pockets.

So on that note, I'm off to the lawyers to draw up an 'all in anti-suit contract' that I'll have my children sign in case they can't live with the decisions I've made regarding their upbringing.

I'm also including a clause for my husband, so if I should ever serve a tainted dinner again he'll just have to settle for throwing up like the rest of us.



JORGE GALLEGOS/VALLEY STAR

CAFE PERK-A-TORY- Sean Ash, the cafe's owner, welcomes Valley College students to visit his place. The cafe is located at 10905 Magnolia Blvd., in North Hollywood.

Local Cafe Perks up Valley College

BY CHRISTINA GRATE
STAFF WRITER

If it weren't for the brightly colored sign reading "Café Perk-A-Tory," you wouldn't notice the pint-sized café on Magnolia Street in North Hollywood.

From outside, the beige stucco structure looks like a typical Southern California establishment, but once you enter the small café you enter a different world. Soft indie music perfectly compliments the provocative artwork on bright yellow walls. Orange concrete floors contrast with the plush royal blue couch against the wall in the center of the room. Old games from childhood festoon small clusters of tables scattered throughout. This

is not your typical café.

"This place definitely promotes a creative environment and a shelter from the onslaught of overzealous creative promotion," the café's manager Rose Boisvert said. "You definitely won't hear any Britney Spears."

Boisvert not only pours "the best vanilla chai in town," but she's also a musician. She's eager to mention the café's promotion of local artists. "We're one of the hottest underground shops right now," she said. "This music will definitely explode onto the Hollywood scene with a force."

The café opened three months ago and has had a steady flow of customers ever since. Everybody's friendly, including the café's owner Sean Ash.

"Ash is really cool," Boisvert said. "Even if he didn't have enough money to pay me I'd still come to work."

A lime-green sign at the end of the bar shows coffee-making isn't the only agenda on Ash's mind — he's also running for neighborhood council. His major concern is making the theatre district in North Hollywood a better place. In fact, his biggest reason for building the café was to provide a safe haven for people in the neighborhood.

"From day one, the neighborhood supported me," Ash said. "Everybody put a little of themselves into this place."

Ash admits he targets Valley College, especially art students. He said the café's always looking for new acts.

ASU Commissioner Battles Cancer

BY IVY DAI
STAFF WRITER

Tyrone Cain was diagnosed with lymphoma on Feb. 7, 2003 at age 55. While juggling 13 children, coaching 19 youth basketball teams and taking a full load of courses at Valley College, cancer came at an inopportune time.

Cain worked at the post office for 22 years. When he turned 53, he felt an urge to pursue something else with his life. He always wanted to go back to school, so at his daughter Jackie's suggestion, he began his first semester at Valley.

Child development was his first class. He soon became a child development tutor, mentor for the Freshman-Sophomore Program and the Associated Student Union's political affairs commissioner. He maintained a 4.0 grade point average and transferred to Cal State Northridge in fall 2002.

"I consider Valley the second chance in life," Cain said. "I always preach to kids to take advantage of Valley's resources and make a commitment to work hard and succeed."

Cain found a niche for himself at Valley, calling the Valley community his family. "He loves Valley College," his daughter Jackie said.

He found something else

missing from his life around the same time he returned to school.

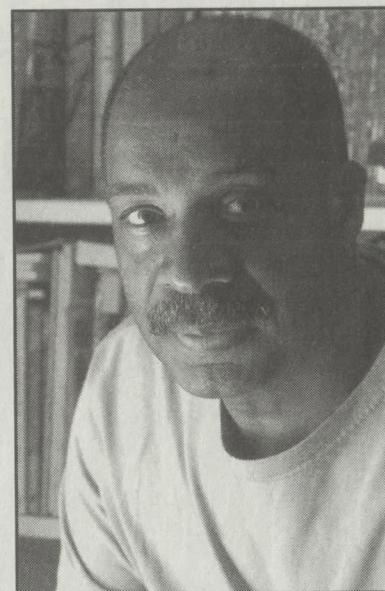
Filling in for his daughter at church while she was away at a Valley basketball tournament, he found Jesus Christ. "The commitment was overwhelming — to learn how to love someone and to be loved," Cain said.

His newfound faith is a large reason for his positive attitude towards cancer. "To me, it's only an inconvenience," Cain said. "When the doctors told me I had lymphoma, I just accepted it right then and there as another challenge to overcome in my life."

Jeannette, his wife for more than 27 years, and his 20-year-old daughter Jackie were with him at the hospital. "My wife was pretty calm — she knew I was a fighter," Tyrone said.

"Tyrone was a prime example of someone who was involved in every aspect of the campus," ASU Adviser Sherri Rodriguez said. "Knowing him, he'll probably pull through."

Jackie took her father's cancer harder than he did. "I was devastated," Jackie said. "I almost had a heart attack. First thing I thought was 'he's gonna die.'" Cain and his daughter are close and have taken classes together at Valley. "He did so much for me, takes care of my financial, getting parking passes, it was unbelievable."



JORGE GALLEGOS/VALLEY STAR

OVERCOME- Former Valley College student and ASU's political affairs commissioner Tyrone Cain

"He reassured me so much that I feel able to cope with it if he passed away," Jackie said. "I would be sad for awhile, but I would be okay."

Cain's doctors want him to start chemotherapy. Lymphoma is a common cancer and about 80 percent of cases are curable.

Cain is still doing the same things as before he was diagnosed, but things could change in the future.

"I'm not fearful of death because I'm in Jesus' hands, but I don't want to die," Cain said. "I still want to do many things, but I'm content with who I am at this point in my life."

Cain is more positive than most people without cancer. "I tell my story to inspire and help people who might be in the same trouble."

Colors in the Sky

BY TAMMY ABBOTT
PHOTO EDITOR

When the wind is just a little more than a breeze, look in the sky and you may see a colorful geometric shape. Keep your eye on the line that's attached and follow it to Tom Fine, owner of the Sunshine Kite Company, at Redondo Beach's Fisherman's Wharf.

Fine loves to teach flying techniques and sponsors two kite festivals a year. The 29th annual Kite Festival was Sunday and people came from all around Southern California to have a day of fun in the sun.

"The youngest person I've taught has been 11 months and the oldest has been 102," Fine said. "Anyone can learn, it just takes a little instruction and practice."

One of the many kites resembled an old Wright broth

ers' airplane and seemed just as difficult to fly, but well worth the effort. "This is my first Kite Festival," Diane Horn of Redondo Beach said. "It's a lot of fun and it's great to see my plane kite so high in the sky."

It's a short walk from the parking structure to his tiny shop, nestled between a restaurant and jewelry store. There's a tree in the square, with kites tied to its branches. They fly on the wind in all kinds of shapes and figures, including spinning rainbow pinwheels.

The kite festival attracted more than 4,000 people to the pier and the beach, and more than 1,000 people visited Fine's shop. "It's great to have so much attention and business," he said, "this is a wonderful day and a great event."

The store is hardly large enough to contain Fine's enthusiasm for what he calls an

"addiction." The clouds painted on the ceiling and kites hanging in a wild, unorganized way gives the impression of a safari. His smile expresses his delight that, though a hobby for most, this is his life's work, and it's fun.

Tom has owned this store for five years, but started working here part time "just for kites," seven years ago. "I used to buy kites in the grocery store when I was a kid in the 60's I have always loved flying."

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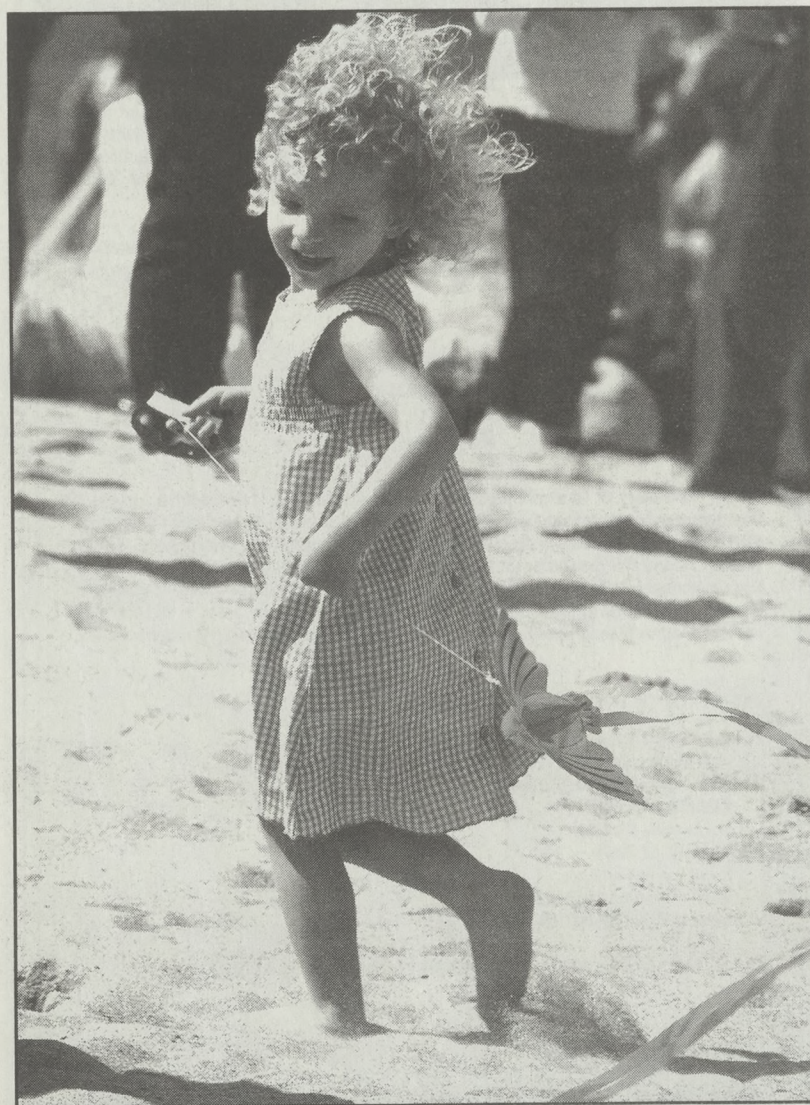
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TAMMY ABBOTT/VALLEY STAR

FLYIN' HIGH- Pint-sized kids fly pint-sized kites at the 29th annual Kite Festival in Redondo Beach on March 9.

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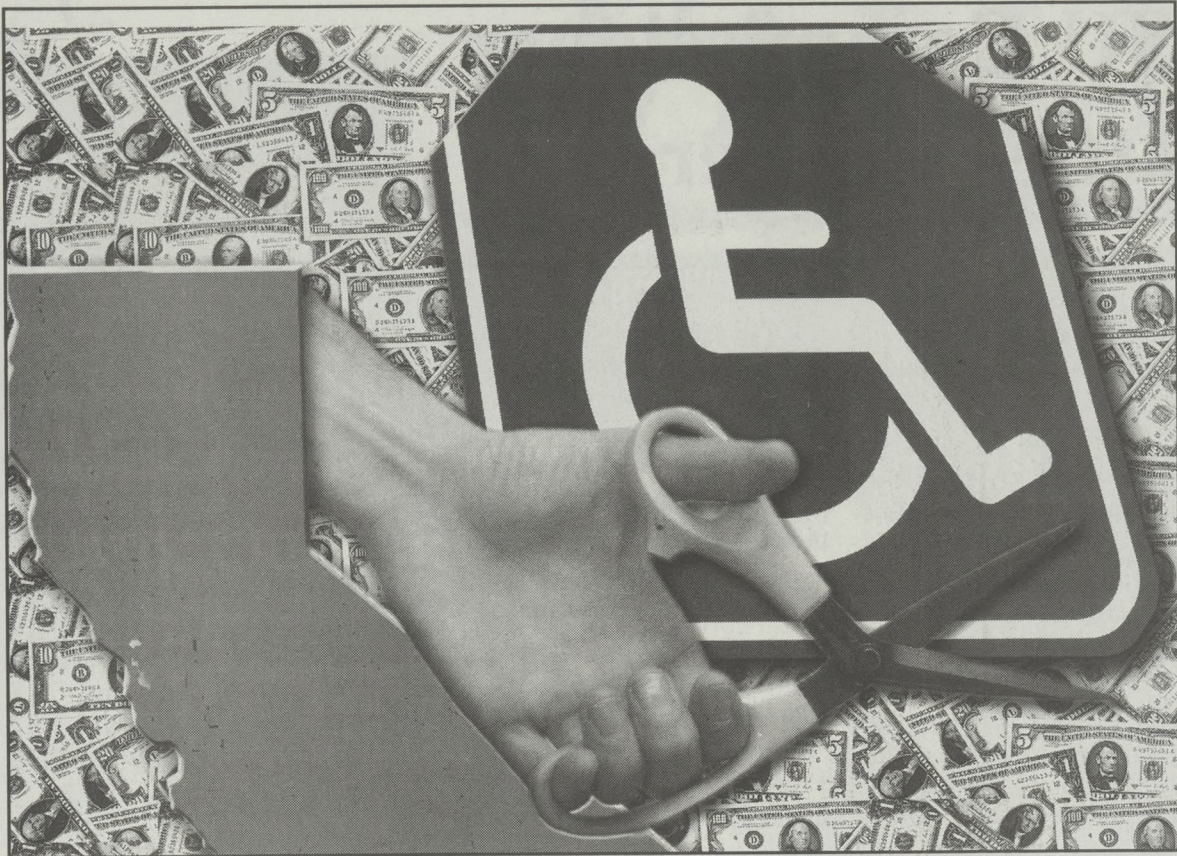


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY STERLING ANDREWS

'DSPS' *continued from page 1*

needs, you have to be very flexible with the budget," Sullivan said. "You may have to arrange a classroom change if there isn't wheelchair access or have a book translated into Braille, which can cost thousands of dollars."

Richardson and Sullivan hope to receive block grants — lump sums given to the school's

president for open use — from the state. But since programs like EOPS and DSPS have such specific needs, a block grant can't fully provide for them since administration would have to distribute the funds to every program on campus, Sullivan said.

The "backbone" of EOPS is their outreach program. Every

year, EOPS goes to local high schools to inform and recruit new students. If legislators approve the budget cuts it will hinder the growth of the school, Richardson said.

"We usually accept about 600 students," Richardson said. "This semester we could only let in about 200, so our growth has already been cut by two

'Race'

continued from page 2

The ASU president and vice president have private offices inside the ASU suite. Other executive council members share an office. These offices come complete with a door, desk and computer. Some have windows facing the tree-plushed walkway on the west of the tennis courts.

"It really helps having a place of my own to study while still in the school's environment," said Frederick Covarrubias, commissioner of ethnic and cultural affairs.

The executive board members chose Maria Agazaryan, former LACCD student trustee, to complete the remainder of Commissioner of Political Affairs Tyrone Cain's term. Cain was diagnosed with lymphoma cancer recently.

thirds."

No matter what, Richardson and Sullivan are remaining optimistic. Sullivan said part of her job is to inform students of their rights and to inform administrators of mandates. She also said the most important part of her job is teaching students how to advocate themselves.

'Runoff' *continued from page 1*

and there's a lot of rage out there right now. Some of that anger might be directed towards the candidates.

"I have a substantial amount of support and money backing me and these supporters will go all out to see that I will win," Field said. "I have a great deal of experience and understanding of the issues at hand, having worked within the college system for many years. Those voters who are passionate about colleges will come out to

vote."

Her feelings towards the new bond measure, however, reflect how many taxpayers feel. "I'm very sorry this bond measure is being presented now instead of a year from now," Field said. "It's bad timing with what's going on in the world. Nine-11 changed everything and none of us know what this war will mean here at home. Bush is going to do what he wants."

'Walk Out' *continued from page 1*

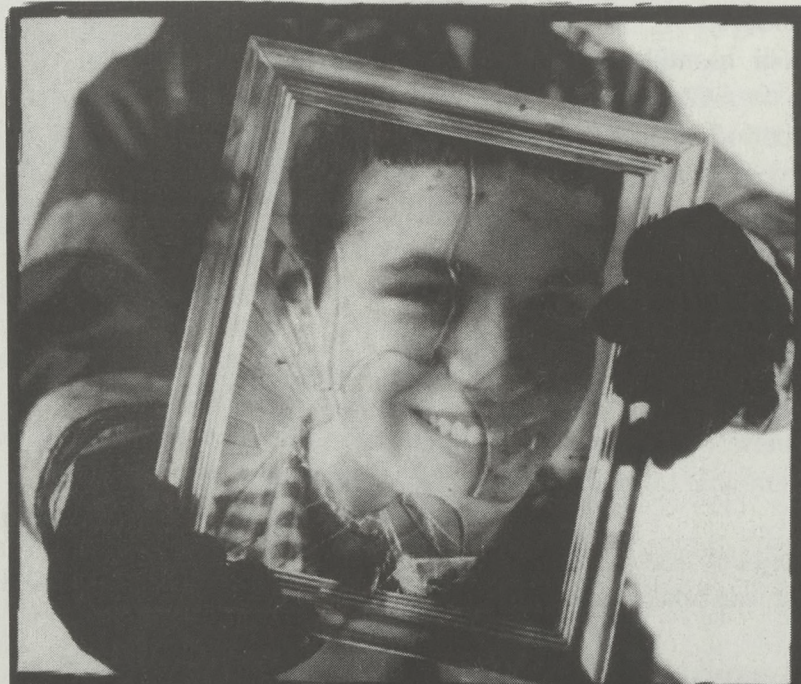
Police and the Sheriff's Departments busy for much of the afternoon.

The walkout was supposed to commence in front of Grant and lead students to the free speech area in the northeast corner of Valley campus, according to head of Valley's campus security Randy Tuinstra. Selig went to the sheriff's office and got their support to demonstrate. There, students would follow in a peaceful protest against President George W. Bush's plans for war in the Middle East. Instead, sheriffs waited on a barren campus for a demonstration that never took place.

"In the time that I've

worked here there haven't been too many disturbances," Tuinstra said. "We always anticipate for things to get out of hand in these types of situations because you never know what could happen."

The lunch bell rang. Administrators and school police were out in force and restrained students from opening the front gates. Grant administrators had no comment about the walkout. While no more than 20 high school and college students took charge of the protest across the street, security guards forced students away from the gates in an attempt to prevent anyone from taking action.



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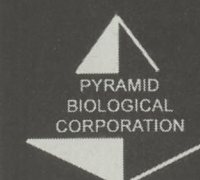
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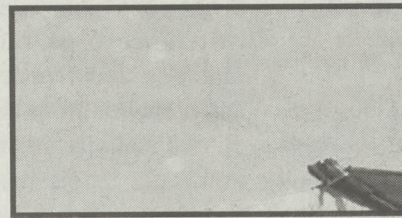
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After a close study of employee feedback, we have designed and implemented a series of improvements to our retirement program. These include our improved Defined Contribution Plan in which we contribute to the plan regardless of your contribution, or an optional Defined Benefit Plan that lets you choose the type of retirement plan that best meets your need. Both of these options also include an increase of our match to 50% of what you contribute to your 403(b) account. These benefit enhancements are just one example of how we listen to and value the opinions of our staff. We offer a competitive salary and benefits package including relocation assistance.

GET IN TOUCH WITH US!

- Call: Nurse Recruiter at (800) 795-NURS
- Walk-in interviews: M-F 7:30am - 4:30pm
- Mail: Cedars-Sinai Health System
8723 Alden Dr., SSB-110
Los Angeles, CA 90048
- Fax: (310) 423-0378
- Email: nurses@csnhs.org
- Online: www.cedars-sinai.edu
- Reference Code: EP-OTHER

Cedars-Sinai welcomes and encourages diversity in the workplace. AA/EOE

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LEADING THE QUEST FOR HEALTH™



GALLERY

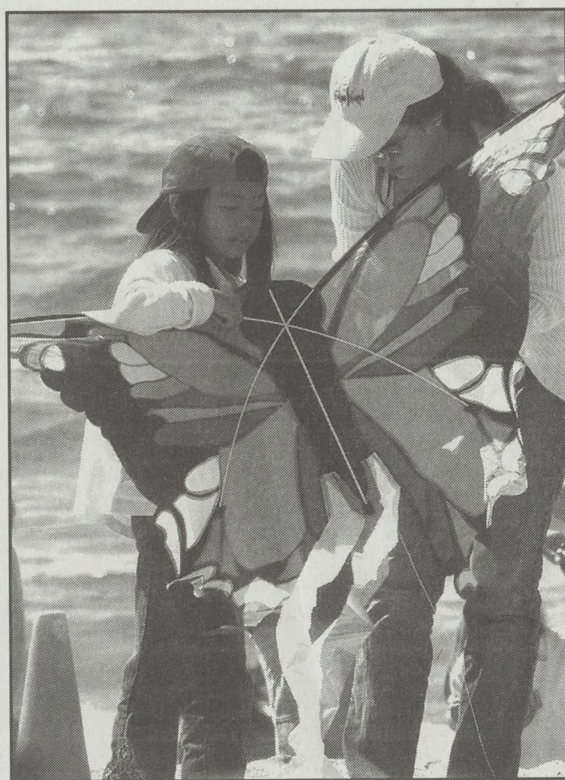
7



COLORS IN THE SKY

Perfect weather, perfect breeze and strong winds drew thousands of people to Redondo Beach Friday, for the 29th annual Kite Festival. Families with children participated, as well as kite enthusiasts of all ages. There were competitions for kite flyers based on age, as well as music and food on the pier that entertained all.

photos and layout by Tammy Abbott
text by Ben Jauron

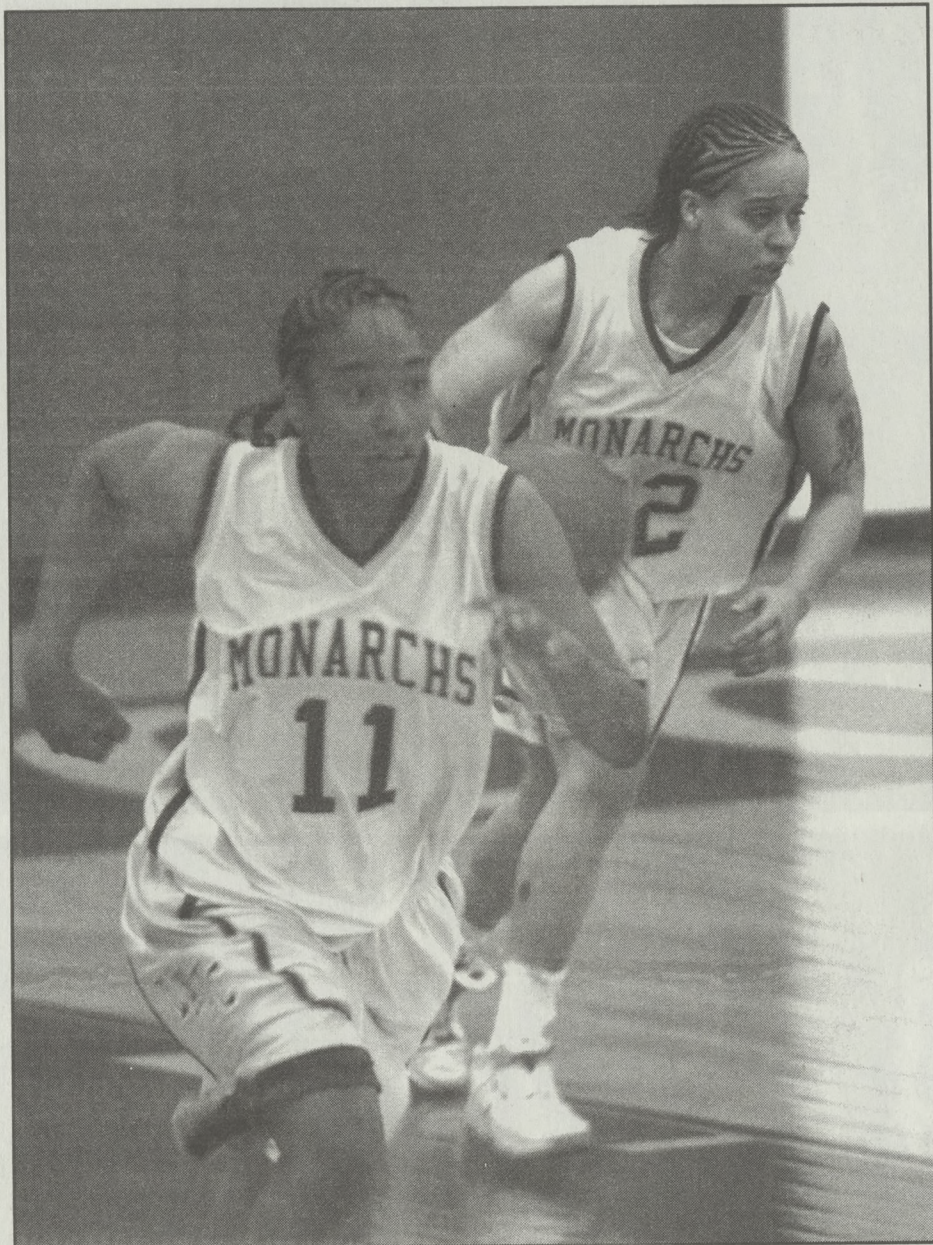


SPORTS

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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL PLAYOFFS

Ladies Advance to State Finals



TAMMY ABBOTT / VALLEY STAR

HUSTLE—Monarchs Krystal Gillespie (11) and Erica Hightower (32) hustle down court after the Raiders went on an 11-0 scoring run.



JORGE GALLEGOS / VALLEY STAR

GOING UP—Monarch Erica Hightower (32) goes up for the shot over Raider Ashley Alderton.

By BOB TEICHMANN
SPORTS EDITOR

Fate, it seems, is not without its sense of irony. The men were eliminated by two points in overtime, while the ladies advanced thanks to a two-point overtime victory.

"The team was the player of the game," Womens' Coach Mike Muro said. "They've been in the hunt all season long and now they're going in."

This season was wrought with injuries, game delays, and bad calls from any number of referees. Yet, with all they had to contend with, the Lady Monarchs stood their ground and proved that bumps in the road are exactly that—bumps.

Now, with the regular season behind them and the Regional Playoffs in the books, the Ladies are heading to San Diego to compete in the State Finals.

CALIFORNIA STATE FINALS

University of San Diego
Game 1 vs. Marin Friday 1 p.m.
Game 5 Saturday 5 p.m.
Championship Game Sunday 3:30 p.m.

PRO SCORES

L.A. Lakers vs. Philadelphia 76er's (W 106-92) 3/9/03
Kobe Bryant: 34 pts, 9 ast, 10-14 ft LAL Record: 35-26

L.A. Clippers @ Atlanta Hawks (L 86-95) 3/10/03
Corey Maggette: 19 pts, 5 rb LAC Record: 20-43

An. Mighty Ducks vs. Detroit Red Wings (W 4-1) 3/9/03
Stanislav Chistov: 1 goal, ast AN Record: 30-24-8-4

L.A. Kings vs. Detroit Red Wings (L 2-3) 3/10/03
Alexander Frolov: 0 goal, 1 ast LA Record: 29-32-4-4

L.A. Dodgers @ Atlanta Braves (L 3-5) 3/11/03

LAVC SCORES

Men's Basketball @ Canyons (L 87-89 OT) 3/5/03
Alex Cabagnot: 20 pts, 9-9 ft, 3-4 3pt Midwin Francis: 15 pts, 9 rb, 1-2 ft

Javon Anderson: 18 pts, 5-8 ft, 4 rb Earl Felix: 14 pts, 4-7 ft, 4 rb

Women's Basketball @ Moorpark (W 62-60 OT) 3/7/03
Rachelle Sherman: 18 pts, 4-4 ft, 9 rb Denise Wilson: 16 pts, 6-10 ft, 3 rb

Syretta Coleman: 6 pts, 8 ast, 5 rb Erica Hightower: 15 pts, 4 rb, 3 st

Softball vs. Glendale (L 5-9) 3/11/03

Baseball vs. Ventura (W 5-4) 3/8/03

LAVC SCHEDULE

Wednesday 3/12/03
No Scheduled Games

Thursday 3/13/03
Baseball @ Oxnard 2 p.m.
Softball @ Ventura 2:30 p.m.

Friday 3/14/03
Women's Basketball @ USD 1 p.m.
Track & Field @ Occidental 3 p.m.

Saturday 3/15/03
Baseball vs. Cuesta 12 p.m.
Softball vs. Hancock 1 p.m.

Monday 3/17/03
No Scheduled Games

Tuesday 3/18/03
Baseball vs. Cuesta 2 p.m.
Softball vs. Pierce 2:30 p.m.

Questions? Comments? Suggestions?

E-mail Bob Teichmann at
LAVCsports@yahoo.com
or go online at
http://snap.to/lavcsports

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"She flopped!
She so flopped! She's
been leaning all
night!"

Mike Muro,
Women's Basketball coach during
the Regional Finals about an offen-
sive foul call.

Photo by Tammy Abbott

Controversy Over Ephedra Becomes Deadly

By JAYSON ADDCOX
STAFF WRITER

Since the recent death of Baltimore Orioles pitching prospect Steve Bechler, the herbal stimulant ephedra has been under scrutiny. But is it lethal or have users been careless?

Bechler was using Xenadrine RFA-1, a dietary supplement many professional athletes trying to cut weight commonly use, especially during training camp.

Ephedra is a Chinese herb also known as *ma huang*, some say it relieves bronchial asthma. But as one of the main ingredients in dietary supplements, ephedra increases the metabolic rate and speeds up the

heart. Some doctors call it "legal speed" because it elevates the heart rate and creates a feeling of restlessness.

Bechler's death was the latest in a string linked to ephedrine. In 2001, Minnesota Vikings offensive lineman Korey Stringer died of heat-stroke in training camp. Northwestern University free safety Rashidi Wheeler collapsed in practice and died. Florida State freshmen Linebacker Devaughn Darling passed out in summer camp and never awoke. Ephedrine was a contributing factor in all four cases.

The NFL, NCAA and International Olympic Committee have banned

Ephedra, but merchants sell the substance at just about every health and diet store in the country. The problem is that under the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) must prove the product in question is unsafe.

"It's almost impossible for the government to prove that a product is unsafe," Sen. Richard Durbin (D-ILL.) said. The FDA proposed putting warning labels on any substance containing ephedrine Friday. The labels should say taking more than the recommended dosage may cause heart attack, stroke, seizure, or in some cases death, according to the FDA.

"I would not take this, I

would not give this to my family, and I don't know why anyone would take the risk," U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy G. Thompson said. Cytodine Technologies, the company that manufactures Xenadrine RFA-1, said the main cause of death is overuse of the product and not the product itself.

The company said the recommended dosage is two pills per day for one week — Bechler was reportedly taking three pills every morning before his work out.

[see 'Ephedra' on page 9]

Monarchs Finally Win One; Confident More Will Come

By ALEJANDRO GUZMAN
STAFF WRITER

The Monarchs baseball team showed vast improvement after defeating the Ventura Pirates 5-4 in an intense game Saturday, giving Valley's baseball team their first victory of the season.

"Our team is headed in the right direction," Coach Chris Johnson said. "Everyone keeps making improvements."

Monarchs pitcher Ryan Rycroft pitched seven innings with five strikeouts and allowed only three earned runs.

"I felt good out there," Rycroft said. "We went right through them."

Support from pitchers Alfredo Avila and David Romeka was crucial in closing a tough eighth inning that saw

eight batters for the Pirates.

This victory was important to the Monarch baseball program, now 1-15. It helped raise the morale of not only the team, but the few faithful who believe the team has the capability and talent to compete.

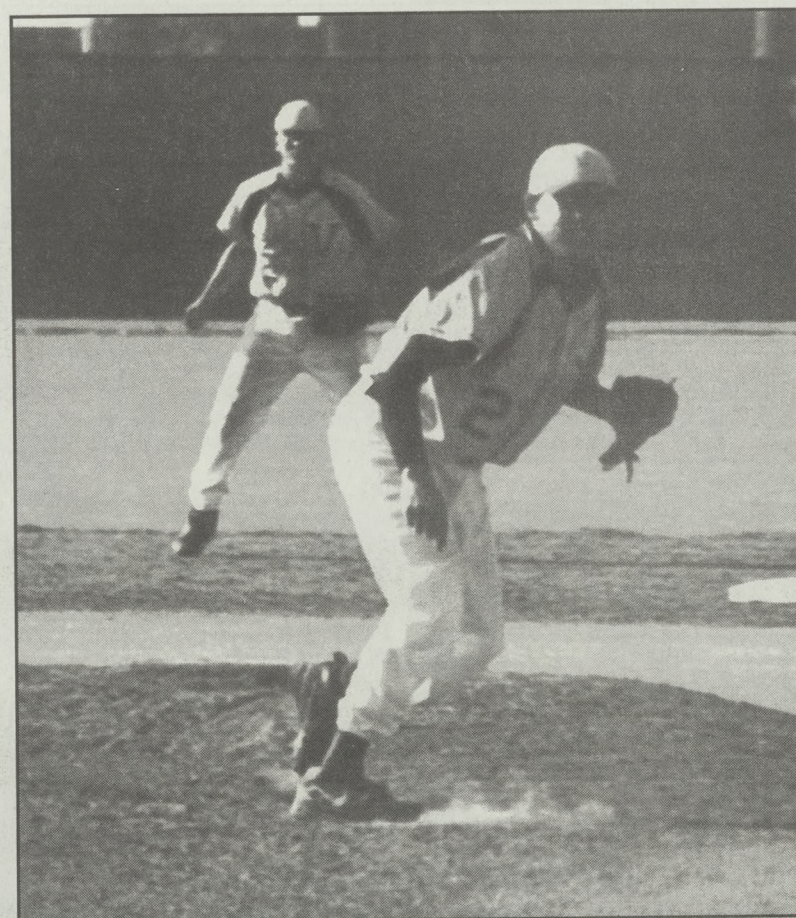
"This win feels great," said a superfan known only as "Dad" Levinson, catcher Brian Levinson's father. "These kids have been on the losing end of the stick, yet they continue to work harder after every game."

3/8/03 Valley 5, Ventura 4

2 Jose de la Rosa - 1 for 3 (triple, walk)
11 Brian Levinson - 1 for 4 (walk, double)
12 Chris Chavez - 0 for 4
14 Clint Copulos - 1 for 4 (walk, double)
16 Keith Ash - 0 for 2 (2 walks)
20 David Mulcahey - 1 for 3 (single)
22 Anthony Chevrier - 0 for 4 (RBI)
29 Nevil Vega - 1 for 2 (2 walks, single)
33 Corey Brown - 1 for 3 (RBI, double, walk)

Inning by Inning Score

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E
VENTURA	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	4	8	3
VALLEY	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	5	9	2



JESUS CARRENO / VALLEY STAR

FINALLY—The Monarchs' baseball team grabs its first victory of the season, improving to 1-15.

SPORTS

http://snap.to/lavcsports LAVCsports@yahoo.com

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NBA SCHEDULE

Wednesday 3/12/03		
Matchup	TV	Time
New Orleans Hornets @ Boston Celtics	none	4 p.m.
Utah Jazz @ Orlando Magic	none	4 p.m.
Indiana Pacers @ Philadelphia 76er's	none	4 p.m.
Milwaukee Bucks @ Atlanta Hawks	none	4:30 p.m.
Los Angeles Lakers @ Detroit Pistons	KCAL 9	4:30 p.m.
San Antonio Spurs @ Minnesota Timberwolves	none	5 p.m.
Chicago Bulls @ Memphis Grizzlies	none	5 p.m.
Los Angeles Clippers @ Houston Rockets	none	5:30 p.m.
Toronto Raptors @ Portland Trailblazers	none	7 p.m.
Thursday 3/13/03		
Matchup	TV	Time
Houston Rockets @ New Jersey Nets	TNT	4:30 p.m.
Sacramento Kings @ Phoenix Suns	TNT	7 p.m.
Dallas Mavericks @ Seattle	TNT	7 p.m.
Friday 3/14/03		
Matchup	TV	Time
Utah Jazz @ Indiana Pacers	none	4 p.m.
Portland Trailblazers @ Philadelphia 76er's	none	4 p.m.
New York Knicks @ Atlanta Hawks	none	4:30 p.m.
Washington Wizards @ Detroit Pistons	none	5 p.m.
New Orleans Hornets @ Miami Heat	none	5 p.m.
Los Angeles Lakers @ Minnesota Timberwolves	KCAL 9	5 p.m.
Chicago Bulls @ Houston Rockets	none	5:30 p.m.
Los Angeles Clippers @ San Antonio Spurs	none	5:30 p.m.
Toronto Raptors @ Sacramento Kings	none	7 p.m.
Dallas Mavericks @ Golden State Warriors	none	7:30 p.m.
Saturday 3/15/03		
Matchup	TV	Time
New Orleans Hornets @ Orlando Magic	ESPN	1 p.m.
Miami Heat @ Washington Wizards	none	4 p.m.
Boston Celtics @ Detroit Pistons	none	4:30 p.m.
Los Angeles Lakers @ Milwaukee Bucks	KCAL 9	5:30 p.m.
Golden State Warriors @ Seattle Supersonics	none	7 p.m.
Sunday 3/16/03		
Matchup	TV	Time
Utah Jazz @ Cleveland Cavaliers	none	10 a.m.
Philadelphia 76er's @ New Jersey Nets	none	10 a.m.
Portland Trailblazers @ Minnesota Timberwolves	none	12:30 p.m.
Dallas Mavericks @ Sacramento Kings	ABC	12:30 p.m.
Atlanta Hawks @ Memphis Grizzlies	none	1 p.m.
Milwaukee Bucks @ New York Knicks	none	4 p.m.
Chicago Bulls @ San Antonio Spurs	none	4 p.m.
Phoenix Suns @ Houston Rockets	none	5:30 p.m.
Seattle Supersonics @ Denver Nuggets	none	6 p.m.
Toronto Raptors @ Los Angeles Clippers	none	6 p.m.
Monday 3/17/03		
Matchup	TV	Time
Portland Trailblazers @ Indiana Pacers	none	4 p.m.
Toronto Raptors @ Phoenix Suns	none	6 p.m.
Los Angeles Lakers @ Los Angeles Clippers	KCAL 9	7:30 p.m.
Tuesday 3/18/03		
Matchup	TV	Time
New Jersey Nets @ Boston Celtics	none	4 p.m.
Detroit Pistons @ Washington Wizards	none	4 p.m.
Philadelphia 76er's @ Miami Heat	none	4:30 p.m.
Memphis Grizzlies @ Minnesota Timberwolves	none	5 p.m.
Atlanta Hawks @ Chicago Bulls	none	5:30 p.m.
Cleveland Cavaliers @ Dallas Mavericks	none	5:30 p.m.
New York Knicks @ San Antonio Spurs	none	5:30 p.m.
Denver Nuggets @ Utah Jazz	none	6 p.m.
Golden State Warriors @ Sacramento Kings	none	7 p.m.
Houston Rockets @ Seattle Supersonics	none	7 p.m.

NHL SCHEDULE

Wednesday 3/12/03		
Matchup	TV	Time
Carolina Hurricanes @ Buffalo Sabres	none	4 p.m.
Los Angeles Kings @ Tampa Bay Lightning	none	4 p.m.
Nashville Predators @ Pittsburgh Penguins	none	4:30 p.m.
Montreal Canadiens @ Florida Panthers	none	4:30 p.m.
Dallas Stars @ Minnesota Wild	none	5 p.m.
Detroit Red Wings @ Phoenix Coyotes	none	6 p.m.
Chicago Blackhawks @ Anaheim Mighty Ducks	Fox Sports Net 2	7:30 p.m.
Thursday 3/13/03		
Matchup	TV	Time
New Jersey Devils @ Boston Bruins	none	4 p.m.
New York Rangers @ Ottawa Senators	none	4 p.m.
Carolina Hurricanes @ Philadelphia Flyers	none	4 p.m.
Colorado Avalanche @ Columbus Blue Jackets	none	4 p.m.
Montreal Canadiens @ Atlanta Thrashers	none	4:30 p.m.
Toronto Maple Leafs @ Calgary Flames	none	6 p.m.
New York Islanders @ Edmonton Oilers	none	6 p.m.
St. Louis Blues @ Vancouver Knucks	none	7 p.m.
San Jose Sharks @ Anaheim Mighty Ducks	Fox Sports Net 2	7:30 p.m.
Friday 3/14/03		
Matchup	TV	Time
Tampa Bay Lightning @ Buffalo Sabres	none	4 p.m.
Los Angeles Kings @ Washington Capitals	none	4 p.m.
Nashville Predators @ Minnesota Wild	none	5 p.m.
Chicago Blackhawks @ Phoenix Coyotes	none	6 p.m.
Saturday 3/15/03		
Matchup	TV	Time
Florida Panthers @ Boston Bruins	none	9 a.m.
Colorado Avalanche @ Detroit Red Wings	ABC	12 p.m.
New York Rangers @ New Jersey Devils	ABC	12 p.m.
Philadelphia Flyers @ Pittsburgh Penguins	ABC	12 p.m.
Los Angeles Kings @ Carolina Panthers	none	4 p.m.
Tampa Bay Devils @ Montreal Maple Leafs	none	4 p.m.
New York Islanders @ Ottawa Senators	none	4 p.m.
Toronto Maple Leafs @ Vancouver Knucks	none	4 p.m.
Buffalo Sabres @ Atlanta Thrashers	none	4 p.m.
Minnesota Wild @ Columbus Blue Jackets	none	4 p.m.
St. Louis Blues @ Nashville Predators	none	5 p.m.
Anaheim Mighty Ducks @ Phoenix Coyotes	Fox Sports Net 2	6 p.m.
Dallas Stars @ Edmonton Oilers	none	7 p.m.
Calgary Flames @ San Jose Sharks	none	7:30 p.m.
Sunday 3/16/03		
Matchup	TV	Time
Florida Panthers @ Pittsburgh Penguins	none	12 p.m.
Colorado Avalanche @ Washington Capitals	none	3 p.m.
Ottawa Senators @ Detroit Red Wings	none	4:30 p.m.
Calgary Flames @ Anaheim Mighty Ducks	KCAL 9	5 p.m.
Monday 3/17/03		
Matchup	TV	Time
Philadelphia Flyers @ New Jersey Devils	ESPN 2	4 p.m.
New York Islanders @ New York Rangers	none	4 p.m.
Vancouver Knucks @ Dallas Stars	none	5:30 p.m.
Chicago Blackhawks @ San Jose Sharks	none	7 p.m.
Tuesday 3/19/03		
Matchup	TV	Time
Philadelphia Flyers @ Buffalo Sabres	none	4 p.m.
Ottawa Senators @ Carolina Panthers	none	4 p.m.
New Jersey Devils @ Montreal Canadiens	none	4:30 p.m.
Detroit Red Wings @ Pittsburgh Penguins	none	4:30 p.m.
New York Islanders @ Toronto Maple Leafs	none	4:30 p.m.
Vancouver Knucks @ St. Louis Blues	none	5 p.m.
Calgary Flames @ Los Angeles Kings	Fox Sports West	7:30 p.m.

Softball Game Called Off Early By BOB TEICHMANN SPORTS EDITOR

The Lady Monarchs softball team looked more like the baseball team Saturday when visitors from Mission College routed them 8-0 in five innings.

Valley had a meager two-hit outing in a game where they only saw 17 at-bats.

Mission opened the game with two runs in first

inning and never looked back. Valley tried to put a run on the board in the bottom half, but they stranded third baseman

Aeshia Mendez at first when catcher Jessica Nelson grounded out to end the inning.

The smooth ride continued for Mission, scoring a combined six runs in the third and fourth innings to give them an 8-0 lead.

Umpires called play after five innings because a mercy rule that prevents eight-run games from going past that inning. Junior college softball usually goes seven innings.

Bob Teichmann
an opinion

Not Another Commercial...

You just got home. It's time for your usual Wednesday night routine. Go ahead and turn on the TV. Wait. Where's the Laker game? What's the deal with all these commercials?

Yes, that's right. It's a set of some dumb commercials with some overpaid athletes who didn't bother to finish college. Pathetic. Do they even deserve to be on TV?

That is entirely up to you to decide. Many of the ads that are played throughout the broadcast of a game all look the same. It's some guy with some shoe doing some dance with some sweat on his head.

Some of the athletes who do TV spots aren't the brightest people. You know what I mean. They all say the same junk after a game, no matter how big it is.

NBA: "I really think my teammates stepped up. They got me the ball when I needed

it and allowed me to score easily. It was a really tough game."

High School: "I really think my teammates stepped up. They got me the ball when I needed it and allowed me to score easily. It was a really tough game."

There is absolutely no difference between the high school chump and the Sacramento Queen. So why then do we keep putting these morons in commercials? If my game is to be interrupted by some shoe commercial, at least put in somebody with a respectable reputation.

The person in an ad should be one who is known for his hard work and great personal ethics within and beyond his game. Allen Iverson isn't good for this; he argues too much and his commercials don't make any sense.

Michael Jordan didn't

start out by showboating, so he was fine choice. His ads evolved to be much more than some TV spot for a shoe. Many of his commercials portray things ranging from his many failures in life to his appreciation of kids and what they can become.

Kobe Bryant's so-called "maturation process" is slowly earning him respect. He has moved beyond some of his earlier "I'm 17, watch me dunk" commercials. However, like with most athletes, Bryant tries so hard to create a persona like MJ's that it won't stand the test of time.

So what's the deal? Can I sit down and watch a game without the fear that my TV will explode from all the crap in it? No, not until these commercials get more original. Please, stop boring me to tears.

Burning Hot Coles

Syretta Coleman defends the honor of the Lady Monarchs

By BOB TEICHMANN
SPORTS EDITOR

The Lady Monarchs have made it to the California State Championship tournament in San Diego. Syretta Coleman has been a key element to their success.

A native of Indianola, Mississippi, the 20 year old has basketball in her blood... literally. Her mother went into labor while playing ball on a dirt court.

"She just out there playing when I just started kicking," she said.

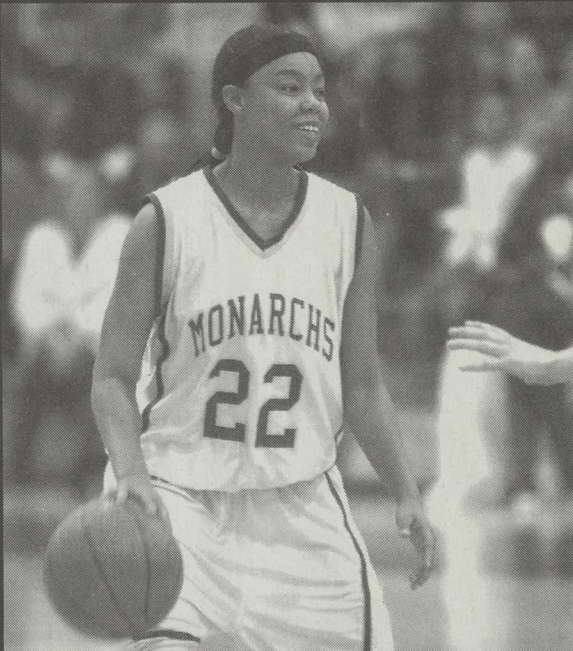
Coleman has been playing organized basketball since the she was 7 years old. She moved westward, playing for Chandler High in Arizona, winning three consecutive State Championships.

In her offtime, Coleman goes to clubs, hangs with friends, and spends time at home just relaxing.

After her time here at Valley, she intends to move on to a four-year school. A major in Business Administration, Coleman plans on using her business sense and basketball skills to one day become the general manager or president of basketball operations for a professional team.

Citing Michael Jordan as her idle, she believes that ball-handling skills aren't the only things needed to succeed.

"Jordan just handles himself professionally," she said. "He does everything with class."



TAMMY ABBOTT / VALLEY STAR

CALIFORNIA STATE FINALS University of San Diego
Game 1 vs. Marin Friday 1 p.m. ■ Game 5 Saturday 5 p.m. ■ Championship Game Sunday 3:30 p.m.

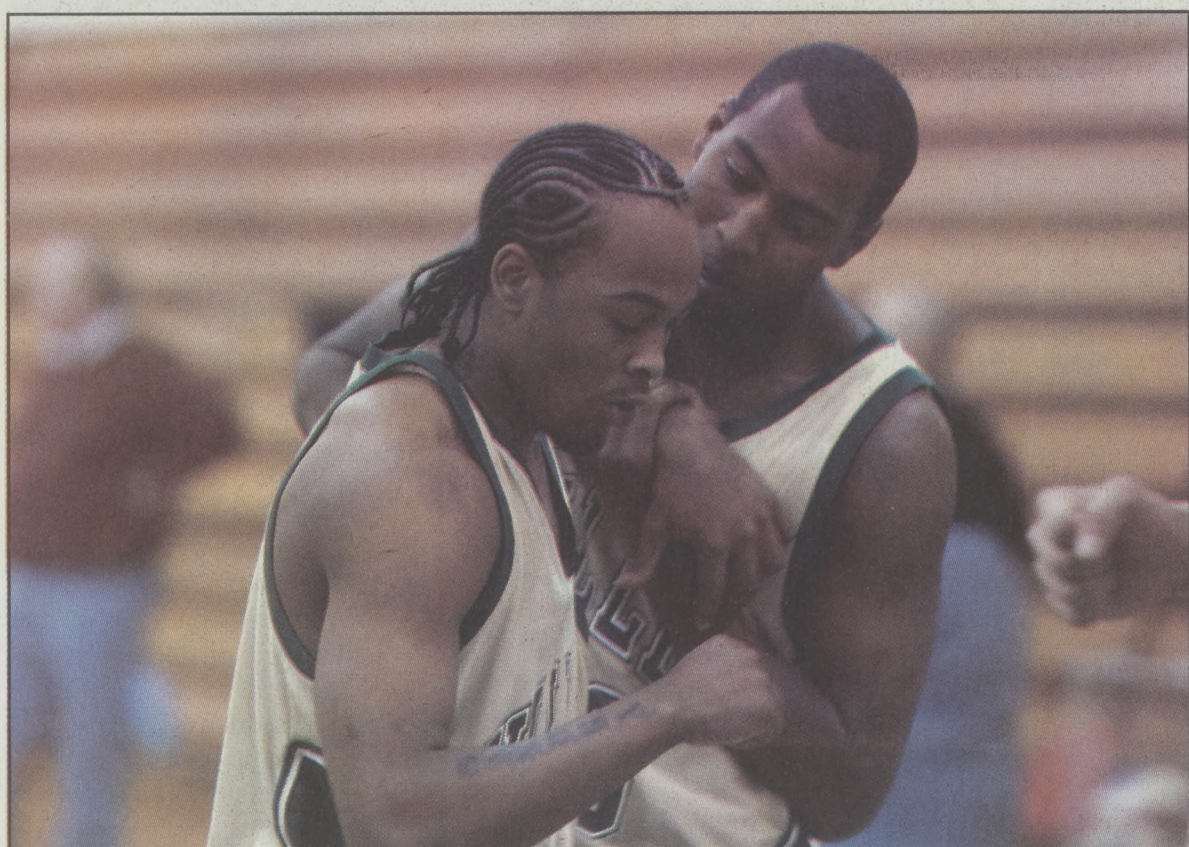
Photo by Bob Teichmann

Questions? Comments? Suggestions?

E-mail Bob Teichmann at
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or go online at
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GALLERY

END GAME



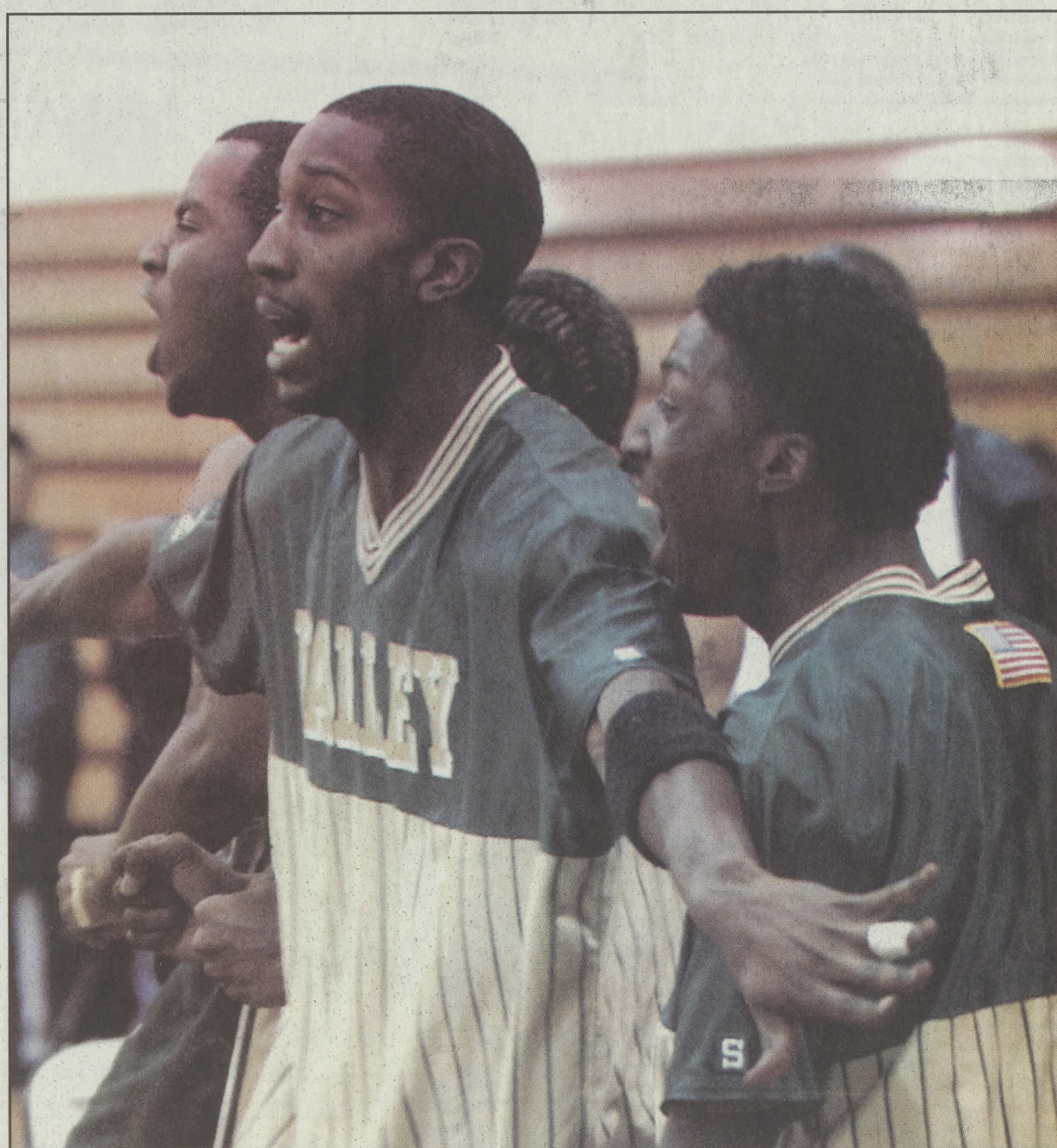
TEAM SUPPORT-DaShawn Strong gives support to Carlos Rivers after the game.

A night to remember. The Valley College Monarchs' elimination from the playoffs brought many reactions.

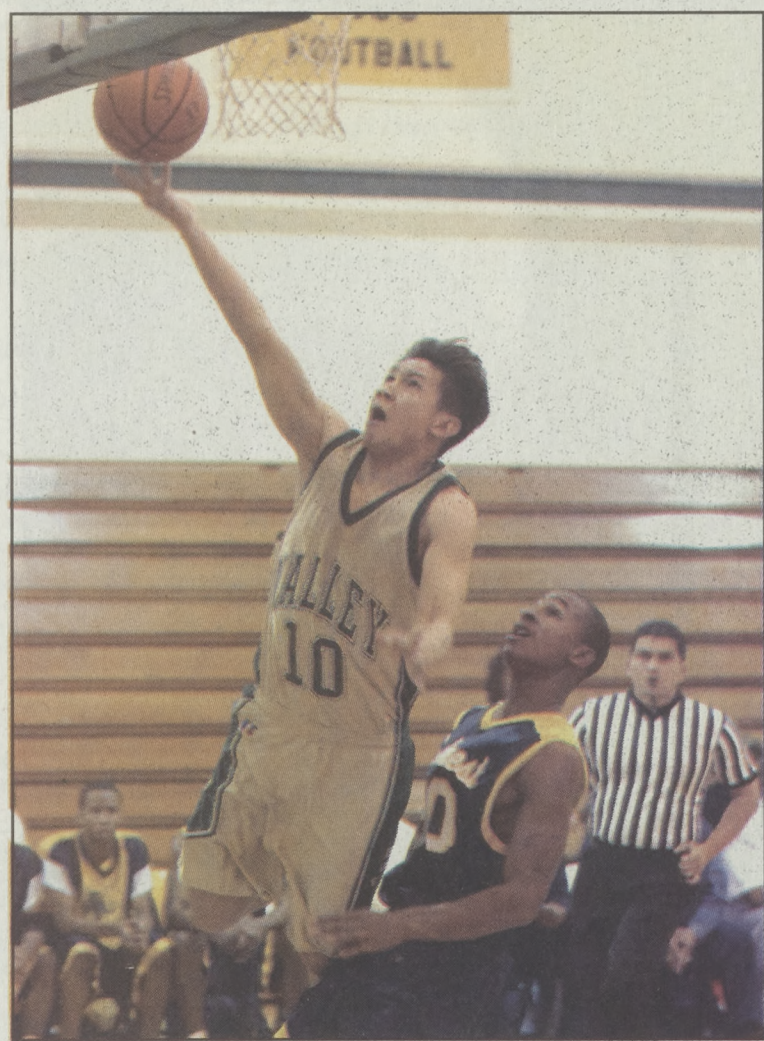
There was a bad feeling from the very beginning. The Monarchs turned the ball over several times, which caused a continuous change of the score board. The game wasn't leaning toward either side, the crowd and players were getting impatient and their adrenaline was rising.

At the end, the crowd, the opposing team and the Monarchs couldn't believe what happened.

PHOTOS, TEXT AND LAYOUT BY JORGE GALLEGOS



THRILL AT VALLEY-Monarchs show their emotions in a very intense playoff game.



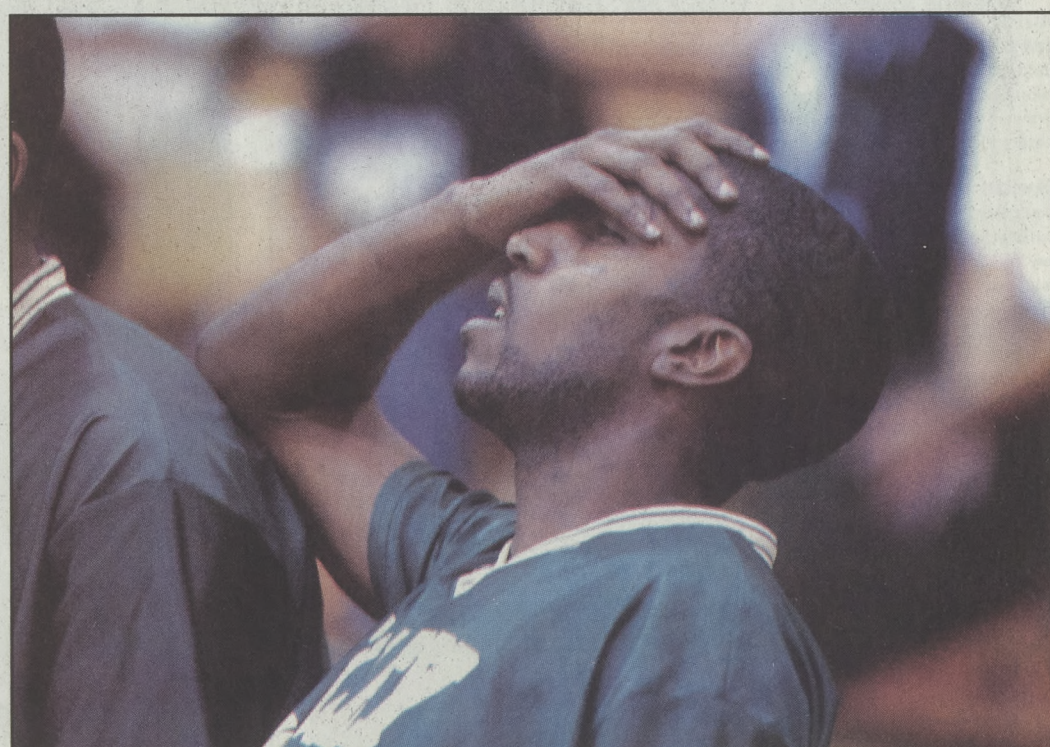
TO THE HOOP-Alex Cabagnet drives to the hoop.



ENERGETIC-Head coach Doug Michelson tries to motivate his team.



SHOCKING END-Valley College President Tyree Wieder agonizes over the defeat.



UNBELIEVEABLE-DaShawn Strong can't believe the elimination.